



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029**

Mr. Matthew B. Pagels, President
12837 Route 438
Cattaraugus Territory
Seneca Nation of Indians
Irving, NY 14081

Re: Notification of Consultation and Coordination on Proposed UIC Permit Issuance to Sandstone Development, LLC: PAS2R420BMCK

Dear President Pagels,

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III (EPA) is seeking to initiate consultation and coordination with the Seneca Nation of Indians (the Nation) concerning proposed issuance of an Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class II-R permit to Sandstone Development, LLC (Sandstone) of Bradford, Pennsylvania. The proposed UIC well is located at the Moody Lot 5 in Bradford Township, McKean County, Pennsylvania. The coordinates for the injection well are: Latitude 41° 54' 34.38" and Longitude -78° 35' 15.70.

On March 15, 2021, EPA received an application from Sandstone for the conversion of one active production well, Moody Lot 5 #17 (API 37-083-53736), to one operating Class II-R enhanced recovery injection well. Enhanced recovery is a process whereby fluid is injected into a geologic formation to help produce additional oil within the formation that was not produced during the original primary oil production process. The draft permit will have a thirty (30) day public comment period. If there is significant public interest, a virtual public hearing will be held to solicit oral comments from interested parties.

EPA respectfully offers the Nation an opportunity to comment on the draft permit and to consult on this matter. EPA proposes that this consultation and coordination process be conducted in accordance with the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes* (<https://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-consultation-and-coordination-indian-tribes>). We invite you and your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process, through which relevant concerns, proposals and options may be discussed and shared by all concerned. EPA anticipates this consultation and coordination process will occur between now and the close of the public comment period for the draft permit.

The official EPA contact person for this consultation and coordination process is Mr. Kevin Rowsey, Senior Permit Specialist in the Source Water & UIC Section at EPA Region III



(rowsey.kevin@epa.gov or 215-814-5463). Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rowsey with questions on this action or to request alternative arrangements to the process outlined in the consultation plan.

The Nation may accept this offer to consult with the Region by contacting Mr. Rowsey at your earliest convenience. EPA requests that the Nation respond within thirty (30) days of receiving this letter to allow sufficient time for the Nation's input, a thorough discussion of concerns and proposals, and EPA's careful consideration prior to the issuance of a draft permit.

We look forward to hearing from you, and working together with you, on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Diana Esher
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Grant Jonathan, EPA Region 2